## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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2	comprising:	
3		a main body; and
4		a leading end portion, integrated with the main body to serve as a
5	convex lens such that light emitted from a core wire of the optical fiber is made	
6 .	to be parallel light, while incident light is focused onto the core wire.	
1	2.	A ferrule attached to a terminal of an optical fiber, the ferrule
2	comprising:	
3		a main body; and
4		a convex lens, integrated with a leading end of the main body such
5	that light emitted from a core wire of the optical fiber is made to be parallel light	
6	while incident light is focused onto the core wire.	
1	3.	The ferrule as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least the leading end
2.	portion is comprised of optically transparent resin.	
1	4.	The ferrule as set forth in claim 1, wherein:
2		the main body is formed with a hole into which the core wire is
3	inserted such that a clearance is formed between a deepest portion of the hole	
4	and a leading end of the core wire; and	
5		the clearance is filled with filler such that the clearance serves as a
6	light guide path.	

1. A ferrule attached to a terminal of an optical fiber, the ferrule

- 1 5. The ferrule as set forth in claim 4, wherein the filler is comprised of adhesive for fixing the optical fiber in the hole.
- 1 6. The ferrule as set forth in claim 5, wherein a refractive index of the 2 adhesive is selected so as to be greater than a refractive index of a material 3 forming the leading end portion, and so as to have a refractive index difference 4 corresponding to a numerical aperture of the core wire.
- 7. The ferrule as set forth in claim 4, wherein the filler is comprised of an optically transparent gel.
- 1 8. The ferrule as set forth in claim 7, wherein a refractive index of the gel
  2 is selected so as to be greater than a refractive index of a material forming the
  3 leading end portion, and so as to have a refractive index difference
  4 corresponding to a numerical aperture of the core wire.
- 1 9. An optical coupling structure, comprising:
- a coupler, formed with a hollow portion in which leading end portions
  of ferrules each set forth in claim 1 are opposed to each other.
- 1 10. An optical coupling structure, comprising:
- a coupler, formed with a hollow portion in which leading end portions
   of ferrules each set forth in claim 2 are opposed to each other.